Abner Belches,
Wrentham July 19. 1845

Philander Ware's Will

West Brentham
July 21 1845

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Mr Amos A Phelps
New York city
118 Nassau St

in such way as he shall judge best calculated to subserve the best interest of the poor suffering bondmen in our midst and said trustee is directed to furnish the President of said American Board a copy of this Conditional bequest as soon as convenient

I have not a copy on hand of my letters to the Treasurer but I can give you the substance in a few words. December 1841 I communicated the clause of the will as here copied requesting an answer as soon as convenient. In a few days I received an answer and requesting me to send them a copy of the whole will that they might see it in connection. stating they would lay the subject before the Prudential Committee who were to hold a Quarterly meeting in January 1842 who decided on such bequests I sent them a copy according to their request though I could see its utility. March the following I received the following note. "The Prudential Committee think it on the whole not best for them to take any action on the matter but to leave it for the Board to act upon it or not as they may think best at the next annual meeting in September." September 21st following I received as follows "At the meeting of the American Board of Commissioners held in the city of Norwich Con on the 13-14 15 and 16 inst your letter of Jan last was read to the Board and subsequently refered to a select Com That Com reported as follows. " Respecting the bequest of Philander Ware your Committee would not recommend to the Board to take any action. This report was adopted by the Board"

Your brother in behalf of the Slave

Mr Amos A Phelps Abner Belcher

Abner Belcher
Wrentham July 19. 1845

Wrentham July 19th 1845

Dear Sir

40 Your last favour of June 19 was duly received and I should have answered it immediately but for ill healthe.

After describing the property designed for the purposes mentioned Mr Ware proceeds "One half of the proceeds to be by him (Abner Belcher) appropriated to the furtherance of the Anti Slavery cause in such way and maner as shall seem to him judicious— The other half to be paid over by him to the Treasurer of the American Board of Comissioners for Foreign Missions on the conditions following that is to say. provided the said board shall by its appropriate Officers Manifest a determination not to receive into their treasury any Bequest or donation from any Slave holder or Slave holding Association and the evidence to be received by said trustee of such determination may be a certificate signed by the Treasurer and directors of said Board and Published in the Missionary Herald Boston Recorder and New York Observer in substance as follows. "We Hereby certify to whom it may concern that hereafter we will not knowingly receive or permit to be received into the treasury of our Board any bequest or donation from any Slave Holder or Slave Holding Association and if said Trustee shall not be furnished with said certificate published as aforesaid within fifteen calender Months of my decease he is hereby directed to appropriate the whole of the proceeds of the sale aforesaid to the promotion of the Anti Slavery cause.